(b) the target of oil seed production during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for improving oil seed production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) In order to bridge the gap between demand and supply of edible oils in the country, Government of India's policy is to provide an integrated package of services to the farmers, including crop technology, inputs and services, price support and an efficient post-harvest infrastructure.

(b) A production target to 180 lakh tonnes of oilseeds has been fixed for the terminal year of the Seventh Five Year Plan (1989-90).

(c) For increasing the production of oilseeds, Government of India is implementing a National Oilseeds Development Project in 180 selected districts of 17 States. This project provides financial assistance to farmers on various critical inputs like (a) supply of improved seeds, (b) fungicides and insecticides of seed treatment, (c) training programmes on package of practices like appropriate seed rate, requisite fertilizers, need based plant protection measures, control of weeds through weedicides, protective irrigational facilities etc. NAFED has made arrangements to offer price support to farmers if the market prices go below the support prices declared by Government.

Procurement policy of foodgrains

358. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the procurement policy of foodgrains, pulses and oilseeds; and

(b) the extent to which the policy is helpful in increasing the production of these commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) Paddy and wheat are procured under price support at the procurement prices fixed by the Government. Rice is, however, collected under levy from millers/dealers. In the case of coarse grains, pulses and oilseeds, the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) is the designated Central nodal agency for undertaking market support purchases.

(b) The production of these crops with the exception of pulses has increased significantly over the years. It may, however, be mentioned that production does not depend merely on the prices and procurement policy but is also influenced by a number of other factors, such as, weather conditions, level of input use, technological innovations, etc.

Allotment of quarters to the dependents of retired Government servants

359. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Directorate of Estates do not allot quarters to the serving dependents of the retire-employees immediately on their retirement with the result that the period of concessional rent expires and they are forced to pay market rent, if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in certain cases the market rent charged from the retired employees exceed the amount of pension;

(c) if so, whether government propose to make some provision that the market rent should not exceed the amount of pension;

(d) whether the Supreme Court in one of its recent decisions has directed that market rent from retired employees should not be deducted from their pension and only half of the amount of arrears on account of market rent should be changed from them, if so, what is government's reaction thereto; and

(e) what steps government propose to take to allot quarters to serving dependents of retired employees immediately on their retirement?